

**PUBLIC SAFETY & PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE
of the
Suffolk County Legislature**

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Public Safety & Public Information Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on **August 21, 2002**.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Legislator Angie Carpenter - Chairperson
Legislator David Bishop - Vice-Chair
Legislator Maxine Postal
Legislator Lynne Nowick
Legislator Joseph Caracappa
Legislator William Lindsay

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Legislator Ginny Fields - District #9
Legislator Allan Binder - District #16
Paul Sabatino - Counsel to the Legislature
Doug Sutherland - Aide to Legislator Carpenter
Tom Donovan - Aide to Presiding Officer Tonna
Ed Hogan - Aide to Legislator D'Andre
Terry Pearsall - Aide to Legislator Lindsay
Frank Tassone - Aide to Legislator Crecca
Rosalind Gazes - Budget Analyst/Budget Review Office
Joe Michaels - Deputy County Executive for Public Safety
Bill Faulke - County Executive's Office/Intergovernmental Relations
Alan Otto - Chief of Staff/Suffolk County Sheriff's Department
John Gallagher - Commissioner/Suffolk County Police Department
James Abbott - Chief Deputy Commissioner/Suffolk County Police Dept
James Maggio - Deputy Commissioner/Suffolk County Police Department
Phil Robilotto - Chief of Staff/Suffolk County Police Department
Mike Pirone - Suffolk County Police Department/Public Information
Warren Horst - Chief Fire Marshall/Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services
Vincent Iaria - Director/Suffolk County Probation Department
Robert Kearon - Division Chief/District Attorney's Office
Debbie Eppel - Director/Public Information Office
Tom Muratore - Vice-President/Police Benevolent Association
Vincent DeMarco - President/Deputy Sheriff's Benevolent Association
Ruth Cusack - Suffolk County League of Women Voters
Margaret Bianchulli-Dyber - President/Sachem Quality of Life
Ray Wisolmierski - Spokesperson/Farmingville Civic Association
Scott McManus - Farmingville Civic Association
Chuck Hammer - Farmingville Civic Association
Sue Grant - Farmingville Civic Association

All Other Interested Parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Alison Mahoney - Court Stenographer

(*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:39 A.M.*)

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CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Good morning. We will begin the Public Safety Committee meeting. I would ask Legislator Lindsay to lead us in the pledge.

Salutation

Good morning. We have some cards that have been filled out so I'm going to start with that. We have quite an agenda this morning so let us go to the cards. Ray Wisolmierski and Scott McManus, if you want to come forward. Normally we have three minutes that you can speak, I would just ask that you try to keep to that as best you can. You can come sit at the table. Come sit at the table.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

Good morning. Thank you for the opportunity to address this subcommittee. I'm here this morning because there is a problem that has to be readdressed, it was talked about very briefly some years ago, that's the problem of crime in Farmingville.

Now, some years ago Mr. Gallagher said that there's not much -- any more crime in Farmingville than there is any place else, and that the statistics support that. Well, I'm here today to tell you something that has happened in the last month which would suggest that the statistics and the way of -- method of record keeping that has been used over the last few years is not indicative of the facts and the reality in Farmingville.

First, at the beginning of this month I was visited at my house by two men who claimed that the corner store at the Video Mart there, on the corner of John Drive -- excuse me, on the corner of Bluepoint and Horseblock, there was a woman who was accommodating the illegal aliens in the form of prostitution, and this was being done outside out in the parking lot behind the bushes. I could not believe this, I said to myself, this is insanity.

(*Legislator Bishop entered the meeting at 9:42 A.M.*)

I had to see if this lady was there and what exactly she was doing. It would seem to me that she was somewhat a disoriented person who was doing exactly that and we believe she is a person who lives in the sober house about two blocks away. Subsequent to that situation at that corner, about ten days later I found out about the incident that

took place with respect to Mr. McManus. And I want him to speak to you about that and then I have some comments after he speaks if I may.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, Mr. McManus.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

And then after that -- he'll speak after this. And then after that there was another incident. All of these incidents are taking place

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within 100 feet of each other but on different times of course. After that what happened was that two young people were asked by their mother to take the garbage out, these are right at the corner of Bluepoint and Horseblock, the same street; they go outside and they are robbed of jewelry. I am told, and I have not been able to confirm this at this time, that the officer who came to the house on the CC suggested that they should not have been wearing any gold; now, this is a person that went 20 feet out of his house and back, he should be able to take the garbage out without being robbed. Now I want you to listen to what happened with Mr. McManus; please speak, Scott.

MR. McMANUS:

Good morning. I have a daughter four years old and a daughter nine years old. I took them to the corner store to go get candy and milk.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

The same one.

MR. McMANUS:

The same store, it's less than 20 feet from where this lady's children were taken from the jewelry. I pulled into the parking lot -- I pulled into the parking lot and I had my children in the back and there was a bunch of workers that looked like they just jumped off of a truck, they were sitting on the phone talking and there was two of them sitting on the curb drinking. And as I was talking to my friend through the window, the one gentleman that was sitting on the curb intoxicated kept pointing and licking his lips and doing rude acts to my daughter, four years old, so they start screaming crying.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

I think you ought to tell them what they did without being too indelicate.

MR. McMANUS:

He was grabbing himself, whistling, licking his lips, winking at my four year old daughter and he's pointing at her telling her to get out of the car. Never knew this man, never seen him ever, she doesn't have any idea who he is, she starts crying. I get out of the car and

I tell these guys they should pick up their beers -- and it's broad daylight, it's like 5:30 at night -- I told them, "You should pick up your beers and get out of here." They circled around, the sick of them circled around and I was by myself and my daughters, they circled around me, I felt threatened, I backed up, four of them took off, the two approached me.

When the one guy approached me he got pushed to the side, the other gentleman tried to smash beer on me, throw beer on me and spit on me in front of my daughters. So I followed him away because someone yelled, "The cops are coming," from the store. I followed him to make sure we knew where he went and what house he was going to go into or what woods he was going to run through so he wouldn't hide. I followed him into the next parking lot where the other kids were playing, right now they just built an indoor community for soccer and hockey for the kids to play with. There was a bunch of kids riding their bikes in the parking lot, I figured there was a lot of witnesses around, a lot of people turning around watching, nobody was coming forward to help.

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I kept following him, he kept throwing beer at me, kept spitting, trying to spit on me and I kept following him. I heard, you know, a couple of people yell, "Cops are coming," so I'm just waiting and waiting and waiting, 20 minutes goes by and the cops never showed up. So I turn back around to go back to Video Mart where my kids were, because another friend of mine had pulled up and I asked them to get my kids out of there, take them home, I don't want them to see what was going on, they were upset.

As I'm coming back to the store, the kids in the other parking lot where I had left him in the sports facility started screaming for help, "Mister, Mister, help, please come help." I walk back, it's like a hundred feet to where the woods were, I walk this back and this man has himself fully exposed trying to urinate and chasing these kids around the parking lot trying to urinate on them. So I looked and I said, "This is a" -- I can't turn my back, I have to do something. So I ran after him, and when I started running towards him he tried running away. He ran all the way across the street of Horseblock Road into a taxidermy on the side of a building and he tried running through the woods to get away so I followed him into the woods. When we both got into the woods, he turned around, he had a big 40 ounce bottle that he was drinking out of and he tried hitting me in the head with it and I blocked it with my hand, I broke my hand. I got him down to the ground, the kids came running over, the police came, they arrested him.

When this was all said and done, the police report just has down that he harassed me and assaulted me, nothing about what happened with the kids, nothing about what he did with my daughter, nothing about what

he did in the parking lot. So I asked them, can you please -- I want a police -- I want this on record, I want it file that this is what happened, I want what led up to this incident. Now, I've been out of work for about a month and I'm going to be out of work for another month and a half, two months maybe; I lost my job over it because I can't perform, I'm a subcontractor. And I just think everybody really needs to know what's going on in our town. I mean, it's up and down the whole block, I live right on Bluepoint Road and I can look out any time of the day and you'll see a group of six to ten of them walking up and down the block all the time. Now, the kids in the neighborhood are afraid to walk up and down the block. I grew up in this neighborhood, it used to be my grandfather's house, I bought it from him hoping my children would have a house to live in like what I grew up in.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

Tell them about your sworn statement.

MR. McMANUS:

Well, I had to go back, I went down that night, after I went to the hospital I went back to the Police Department to sign the statement and they refused to tell me what actually happened. They wouldn't put down on the paperwork what happened, so we had to go back a week later to refile a new CC and I still didn't get a copy of it. Nobody has called me to let me know what happened, whether he was arrested or released. He's been in trouble before because I went to the DA about this to explain to them exactly what kind of treatment -- I got

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treated like I was the criminal. I was the one questioned, I was the one being told I shouldn't have did this, I shouldn't have did that, so I went to the DA and I talked to -- what was it, it was the DA's office and they said that this man's been in trouble before, he's been arrested a few times before within the past six months, he's also got disorderly conduct when he tries to get arrested, you know, he scrambles with the cops. And that day he gave a fight towards the cops and the cops couldn't, you know, control him; it took like ten of them to retain him, hold him down and get him into the car. The children came up to the cops and said, "Look, this is what happened. Hours ago we seen him drinking, he was huffing paint," the kids in the neighborhood actually seen them doing drugs on the side of the building in the park. Now when the kids wanted to be telling the police what happened, they were abused, they were trying to be urinated on and I mean they were screaming for help, none of those kids were taken home by the police to let them know what happened, no report was ever filed for these kids, nothing was ever done.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

I brought Mr. McManus with me to the police station and I stayed in

the vestibule and waited for three hours while he was interrogated, during which time the suggestion was that this incident was not real but perhaps some kind of made-up situation to justify a problem between illegal aliens and the residents.

What has happened is we believed that the situation is, you know, one where we're trying to hold the lid down and pretend things don't exist. Well, I'm here to tell you that the lid is off, the jig is up, the -- and the gloves are off, the war is on because we can't tolerate this any more. We have to have the situation in Farmingville become safe, it is not safe. And I'll tell you why I'm here this morning, exactly and precisely and what I expect to happen out of this as a result of this meeting.

It's a long time between a CC made by a -- in complaint by a person and the time which it is established that a quote/unquote crime has been committed.

(*Legislator Caracappa entered the meeting at 9:51 A.M.*)

We in SQL, based on what we've just told you and based on what we perceive to be incredible evidence suggesting that our statements are not over statements of the facts, would like this committee to direct the Police Department to tell -- to give SQL the CC's of all incidents involving suspected illegals and legals, whether they come from the illegals on us or the us on the illegals. Because, you see, it's not so much how many crimes are eventually determined, it's what the quality of life in Farmingville is. And the quality of life in Farmingville is not determined by how many crimes are actually discovered to be crimes put out to the situation. Imagine if every single person had to go through what Mr. McManus just went through in order for a crime to be put down on the record. All I can understand why there would never be any crime anywhere.

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MR. McMANUS:

I was told that the crime didn't happen because the police weren't there to witness it; that's exactly what I was told.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

And the DA's office said, "Am I to assume that the only crimes that exist" --

MR. McMANUS:

They told that to the DA, too.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

And the DA said, "Am I to assume that the only crimes that exist in Farmingville are the ones that are witnessed by the police?" Has it

come to the point where when we make an accusation it's no longer even going to be believed?

The situation has to change and SQL, representing that community, wants the cc's. We want to know the per diem crimes, the accusations made, not necessarily the crimes listed on that group of so-called crimes. Because we know it's politically advantageous to have a nice, clean record and not to have these having to be listed on the record, but the facts of the matter are that what the complaints are really the indication of the quality of life and that's what has to change. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. Thank you for coming down. I can appreciate your frustration, I can hear it in your voice. However, I'm a little disturbed when I hear statements like --

MS. BIANCULLI-DYBER:

Oh, please.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

-- like we're at war, because I think that that is not going to --

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

We are at war, and let me tell you why, Ma'am.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Excuse me, excuse me. Excuse me, let me finish. I don't think anyone is going to benefit when inflammatory statements are made on either side. And I also would like to tell you, if you were not aware of it although I'm sure you are, that the Police Commissioner is sitting here.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

That's why I made sure I said exactly what I said.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

The Deputy Police Commissioner and many other high ranking members of the department who --

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

Now, let me explain to you, Ma'am, why I think you're mistaken.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Excuse me. Excuse me, I would like to finish my statement, if that's okay.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

I'm sorry, finish.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

This is not -- I mean, you've brought your concerns forward, they are here and they have heard them. And as far as I'm concerned, this is not for the committee to direct them, I don't know if legally that CC's can be shared with any group, I don't know that. And these are questions and issues that you're going to have to deal with with the proper channels.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Yes, Legislator Caracappa.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Thank you. I apologize for being late, number one, I was at a breakfast meeting. Please understand the frustration of this community, I know they have been before us many times and the issue has been volatile at best. But also keep in mind that the Police Department did a complete 180 on the issue relating to crime and the incidents in Farmingville back when I had the bill on to go after the INS for their failure to do their job. When at committee Chief Robilotto came up and said, "Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes," to all the questions that I asked and that the community was asking and then just four days later, five days later -- and then Chairman Bishop can attest to this -- it was a completely different story. Why? Because we all know that this is too hot an issue for the Suffolk County Police Department to come out forward on and state the facts. The facts are the facts and they're buried the second that they're brought up and this is the frustration that this community and those who have had to deal with it, on both sides have had to deal with for too many years now. So that's my statement.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you very much.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

I'd like to conclude with --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Are there any other --

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

-- one remark and that's this. I'm not looking to accelerate tensions in the community, but I have to explain something to you that apparently you don't understand and it's more of a realization than an understanding. The realization is this. It is the rights of illegals and the rights of legals are, in point of fact, mutually exclusive.

And any attempt to balance the rights of legal with the rights of

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illegals in point of fact diminishes and subtracts from the rights of the legal. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Thank you very much.

LEG. NOWICK:

I have -- I want to ask you a question just because I'm new here. You said that the police did a 180 and I didn't exactly understand what you meant, what happened.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Back in I believe it was 2000, late '99, I proposed a bill to sue the INS for their failure to do their job on their level. Based on their failure to do their job it was, of course, a trickle down effect to the local municipality, our Police Department, our corrections institutions. So I thought we needed to send a message, as we have with LIPA and the Long Island Railroad and so many other levels of government and agencies and I felt it was a prudent way to go based on certain crimes that were being committed in highly populated areas such as Farmingville where there were undocumented immigrants shaping up work in massive quantities.

During our debate on the issue, we had the Police Department come during committee and testify to the fact that there were certain crimes being committed by a certain amount of people, that that level of crime was rising, they weren't petty crimes, they weren't people stealing food, survival type crimes, they were getting more -- and I hate to paraphrase the words of the Chief, but they were becoming more intense, more high level crimes. Four days later, because we had met on a Thursday I believe at that point in time, at General Session in Riverhead the Police Commissioner came up and, alongside with the Chief, completely reversed everything they said in committee and that made the whole situation worse. It was a very bad situation to start with and it was made worse by the Police's complete 180, and that's what I meant by that.

LEG. NOWICK:
Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. We will -- I would just like to draw everyone's attention to the information that we passed out this morning from the Fire Academy. Don Gackenhimer shared this with me, training is up markedly over last year, as you can see from the charts that he passed around. I would ask the Police Commissioner if he would come forward,

please. Did you wish to speak? Because I only had one card. Did you fill it out? Okay.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:

Thank you for allowing me to come up with the card situation.

Ms. Carpenter, Ms. Postal, we know who your constituents are, but Joe Caracappa has constituents also. We need you to remove your fig leaf of your constituents. And if the only thing you heard from Mr.

Wisolmierski and Mr. McManus was the word war then that's your fig leaf, you're not listening to us.

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I have here a document that was used in the year 2000, August, 2000, to try and show that we have involuntary manslaughter, we have felonious sexual assaults going on in our community. And as late as yesterday my daughter, for the first time in three years, she's 28 years old, ventured out on her bicycle and was stopped by an illegal who got off his lawn mower at the Portuguese Club and solicited her for sex and told her in Spanish, and she speaks Spanish, things that she did not want to repeat to her mother. Of course she's like her mother and a little bit more cheeky and not afraid and told him to go away, she was not his green card. So that was as late as yesterday. This is what's going on in our community. It is real to us and we are constituents, we are taxpaying constituents. And if you're in cross purposes with Joe Caracappa's constituents, the law is what gives all of you the fig leaf to do what is right for all the constituents of Suffolk County.

I also have here notices from the Sachem School District. In the months of March, April and May, our elementary school children were solicited by predators, meeting them at the school bus stops. Our elementary school children are taught and wise enough to turn the other way and to go the other way. This week we get a notice that in Mexico, here in the United States the INS broke an International Child and abducting and smuggling ring. All of this is what's going on in the Town of Farmingville and nobody cares about us. It's three years, we've been called bigots, we've been called xenophobes and it hasn't stopped us and it's not going to stop us. In fact, September 6th, 7th and 8th we're having a national conversation, again, to educate the public as to what's going on in this country. But that's not your problem, your problem is Farmingville and finding a way to support the Legislators and to turn Legislator Foley to understand it is okay to support the people of Farmingville.

We need the police to have permission to move the men off our streets in the morning; it is at minimum a public nuisance which they do have authority to act on. And it is three weeks ago, this was not reported, several women coming out of the 7-Eleven on the corner of Horseblock Road and Ocean Avenue, were physically touched by the men

as they were leaving the 7-Eleven. Since that time you can see 7-Eleven, there are very few people going to that 7-Eleven, especially females, at least not in the numbers that they used to be. This is reported to us through the community but not to the police. And when people call me on the phone to give me their reports, I say, "Why don't you call Inspector Rau," and they tell me the same story over and over and over again and you heard it from Mr. McManus, "The police treat me like the criminal. The police won't put down what I said happened."

I spoke to the Video Mart owner over the weekend and I got the same story from him. Because this is new to his property, just this past year, where the illegals are shaping up on his property. But it's the same answer I got from {Javeed}, the corner and Bluepoint and Horseblock Road 7-Eleven and the same answer I got from Gary Johnson at the Ocean Avenue and Horseblock 7-Eleven, and that is the police won't do anything. The man at the Video Mart said, "I have a Detective Wins' name and phone number right on my board, he tells me to call him, I call him I can never reach him. We were told the plain

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clothes men would be in our parking lot to help us with this problem, no one has been here." When I speak to Inspector Rau about it, he says, "Oh, it's the merchants not wanting to do what they're supposed to do and file the reports." Well, to some extent 7-Eleven franchise may be responsible, but the reality is we're the people who support those places and they are in our community and you are our police and our Legislators. This is a Public Safety Committee, you need to take off your fig leaves, you need to help us in our town, you need to help us.

Now, I know Mr. Caracappa. Ms. Nowick, I don't know who you are, I'm just meeting you for the first time, I'm sure he could provide you with any of the information you need about that August situation where he was taken and he was put over the rails by his own people, by his own people in the Legislature; and I won't go any further on that because that is not my jurisdiction to discuss.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:
Thank you very much. And I do hope that you'll please do something, encourage the police to be more aggressive in their enforcement in our community, please, Ms. Carpenter.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Thank you.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:

I have the letters if you would like to see them from the board, the Sachem School Board. I don't know if you want me to --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

You can give them to the --

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:

-- go over there and make copies? Okay. Are you the man that I give the copy to?

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

Read one letter.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYER:

I don't know --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

No, really, it's supposed to be three minutes and we tried to accommodate you.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. Is there anyone else who has filled out a card that we perhaps did not get? All right, thank you. Police Commissioner, if you want to come forward, please. Good morning, gentlemen.

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COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Good morning. I would assume you want know address some of the issues that were raised just now.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

If you feel comfortable in doing so, by all means.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Well, I think, you know, one of the most important things that -- one of the things that's most important to any Commissioner and to this department would be our credibility with the Legislature. And just I have to address Legislator Caracappa's assessment of what happened a few years ago. I think everybody might see things differently, the same set of facts can be looked at from three or four different points of view. What we I think were trying to do at that time when the first questions were raised and in -- not that Chief Robilotto needs anybody to defend him, but I think the initial response was that there were some instances of crime within the Hamlet of Farmingville that were indicative of in some instances an upward indication, an upward

tick of crime in that hamlet. But those instances of crime when compared to hamlets throughout the Police District did not constitute anything -- I think the term that somehow -- and I don't say Legislator Caracappa used it, but the term that got back thrown to me was crime wave and there was no indication of a crime wave in the district, in the hamlet, no indication of crime in any numbers exceeding the levels of crime you would find in other hamlets.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Commissioner, let me cut you off right there. I have never used the word crime wave ever.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

I just said you didn't, Sir.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Okay.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

I just said you did not use it.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

That was a term made up by the media.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Sir, I would ask you to listen to me because I'm not trying to get in any kind of confrontation with you. I just said, although Legislator Caracappa never said that, the word crime wave was used, was thrown back at me.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

My apologies.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

So please, I'm not trying to -- you know, I'm trying to get this straight between us, that I did not -- I know you didn't say it and I in fact called you and told you that I knew you didn't say it. But the

question asked of me by a paper, a newspaper, was is there a crime wave in Farmingville and I said no, I can't characterize the rate of crime there as a crime waive, but nor could we characterize the rate of crime increase there as any way beyond the rate of crime increases in any other hamlet. So that was our position back in the time that that legislation to go before -- to sue the INS.

I just wanted to make -- you know, as far as my perception of what happened as opposed to a 180 degree turn, I think we may have missed -- there may have been a misapprehension based on the initial

statements that crime had increased, that that meant that there had been an absolute increase in crime in that hamlet. But our findings as a result of review was that there was no absolute increase in crime to the point where we have to say it stood out among other hamlets.

As to the other comments that have been made by previous speakers, let me just -- one thing is the central complaint numbers or CC number, the reports that are issued under those numbers, they are public -- matters of public information and I think they can be obtained by any member of the public upon a FOIL {or FOIA} request. We do have to get a FOIL request because they involve a complaint of both sides, both the complainant and the -- the accuser and the accused, so we need to show for the record that the complaint was given to anybody as a result of Freedom of Information request form, that we don't just hand it out. But they are perfectly free to be -- anybody that wants to get one can get one, you just have to file a request for one.

The implications, if I would, of the members of the public, you know, the community that somehow there's a political agenda on our part, I assume that has to come from the Commissioner because that's I think the only person you would think would have that kind of agenda. I can do no more than just sit here and tell you that I have sat through many, many, many instances where a political agenda for this department would have been the most cynical common reaction you might think of when you have incidents of crime, incidents of misconduct, incidents of corruption that could be covered up, ignored, massaged; that has never happened. I don't say it's never happened in the history of this department, I'll tell you it's never happened while I sat and sit as Commissioner of this department. And I can give you the people, if you want, who will attest to the fact that it's never happened, because they paid the penalty. I cover nothing up. We have no agenda in Farmingville. I'm not looking to take sides either way.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:

Then clean-up our streets.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

If a crime is committed we will act on the crime. If we receive notice -- at some point, at one point in the resortation of one incident, I thought I heard that the police locked the guy up or some phrase like that, so an arrest was made. I don't know what more beyond -- once you make the arrest, it then goes into the criminal justice system, what happens to that person once he's arrested, or he or she is arrested, becomes part of a much larger system than the police system. But if a crime is committed, we will act on it.

If information is given about activities that constitute something that is a quality of life issue but does not rise to the level of

either a violation or a crime, you have a different situation for the police then. Is someone's presence on a street corner a crime? No.

MR. WISOLMIERSKI:

Yes.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:

Yes, if it's a public nuisance. And 500 men --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Excuse me. Excuse me, the rules of engagement here are that you speak when you're sitting at the table addressing the committee. I won't permit anyone to shout out from the audience, I'm sorry.

MS. BIANCHULLI-DYBER:

I'm sorry, Ms. Carpenter.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

I can just repeat, people standing on the side walk talking is not -- would constitute a violation or a crime, and I don't think -- I actually don't think there is such a statute as a public nuisance, you know, that applies to congregation of people in a public area. If they're blocking traffic that's one thing, if they're acting in a manner that's disorderly that's another, but standing talking is not -- you know, just standing there is not a public nuisance. All I can urge the community, although I hear you saying that we don't pay attention to the things you report, is to continue reporting these incidents, report them -- if you think there's been a violation of law report it, keep reporting it, keep insisting on us taking that report, keep insisting that a written report be made. I will go back to the 6th Precinct or direct the Chief to go back and make sure that we understand exactly how reports are taken and exactly how people who file reports, people who come to, you know, make a complaint are treated in the precinct. But there's no political agenda, there's no hidden agenda here, we will do what we have to do regardless of who it is we're dealing with.

I understand that there's frustration, I understand that there's a perception that if you are illegal you don't have the same rights as someone who's legal. At some levels of law that's true, but in the level of law that police deal with, your presence here, whether legal or illegal, is irrelevant to the fact that you're here as an individual, if you commit a crime you will be treated the same either side, on either side of your status of whether you're legal or illegal, whether you're here by virtue of being an illegal alien or a legal resident. But it doesn't take -- you know, nothing is diminished, your rights, Constitutional rights are not in any way diminished by your status of citizenship. That's why we're in America, you know, if you are a citizen or a noncitizen your rights under law, as far as the right to move publicly from place to place,

the right to be free from arrest, is not diminished by whether or not you're a citizen or a non citizen.

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CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Commissioner, thank -- oh, I'm sorry. I just wanted to thank you for your comments and candor in addressing the issue that was raised that you were not prepared for this morning. And also, in your statement that you will send, you know, will follow-up with the precinct and review their procedures, I think that --

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Yeah, I will try to find out what kind of --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

-- should give everyone some level of comfort.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Yeah. First of all, what kind of liaison is established between the precinct with both sides, especially the members of the community, the people who are here as citizens who do have a right. And believe me, they have a right to be free in their own homes, they have a right to be free on the streets, they have a right to feel safe, that right should not be abrogated either. You know, there's no one side to this.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

And Commissioner, if at any point you feel that this committee or myself as the Chairman can be of any assistance in this, please feel free to, you know, include us wherever appropriate and wherever we can be of help. I think we need to move to the agenda.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Can I just ask something?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Sure. Oh, I'm sorry. Yeah, before we go to the agenda, if anyone on the committee has an issue they'd like to raise with the Commissioner, please do so. Legislator Lindsay.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Yeah, Commissioner, really a change of pace, totally something else. I have a concern about -- and I see FRES is here, too, I'm going to raise that with them too -- about, you know, this Remsco Report about the response time to ambulance calls. And how -- why I'm talking to you about this is from my understanding, if someone calls a 911 number, it goes to a police dispatcher? Could you --

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Sure.

LEG. LINDSAY:

-- go through the chain of what happens when I call 911 for like a cardiac arrest?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

We urge the public, regardless of the emergency, to dial 911, that's so, A, it makes it easier for people to remember what to call -- you know, where to call if they need help, whether it's police assistance, fire or medical emergency. When you call 911 you get an emergency

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complaint operator who asks you literally what is your complaint, what's the nature -- you know, what's the problem. If you say, "I have a medical emergency," you know, and describe the medical emergency, someone has fallen, hurt themselves, bleeding, apparently having a heart attack, having trouble breathing, whatever that medical emergency, the basic formation that comes up on the Enhanced 911 screen that tells the operator where you're calling from, what the location is, what ambulance company, what rescue company services that location, that information, if it's feasible, they will confirm that with you that this is where you're calling from. Then they pass that call over to the Fire Rescue Dispatch, the call literally gets transferred electronically over to Fire Rescue Dispatch where it's taken up as a medical emergency call. In the meantime, we dispatch a police sector car or a unit to that same incident. We will have one of our cars respond, too, as a backup to the fire rescue call.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Okay. When it gets turned over to the Fire Rescue Service, I assume they dispatch that to a local fire department ambulance corps?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Either the central dispatch out of Yaphank which is run by Fire Rescue, and they can explain to you, there are some ambulance dispatches that are made by other dispatch agencies such as Babylon which has a central dispatch for the Town of Babylon. But yes, it gets dispatched depending on where the call is coming from. Again, when the operator passes the call on, they pass it on to whatever the relevant agency is that will dispatch the emergency medical call.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Is there any way of shortening up that process?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

They actually go -- well, Chief Robilotto --

LEG. LINDSAY:

Because if I understand what we're talking about, we're really going through one, two, three people before the ambulance is dispatched.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

You're going through -- what I'm describing really is a matter of seconds. The same information that the operator gets sent over to the Fire Rescue Dispatcher.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Is the same information asked by the Fire Rescue Dispatcher?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

No, not to my knowledge.

CHIEF ROBILOTTO:

What actually happens is the call -- we have a direct tie-line from our dispatch center to FRES' dispatch center, and I believe sincerely that all of the FRES dispatchers are EMT's. When our dispatcher picks up the phone and you come on with a medical emergency, we open up a party line in quotes so three people are now on that phone,

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complainant, the police dispatcher and the FRES dispatcher. The police dispatcher yields the questions to the FRES dispatcher, the Enhanced 911 system populates the screen, the screen is sent to a police dispatcher for dispatch to a sector car. The Suffolk County Police Dispatcher listens in on the call to get additional details which are then sent or added to the police call, FRES picks up all the rest of it. It's done in seconds, literally.

LEG. LINDSAY:

The sector car that's dispatched to the scene, do they have the ability to communicate with the ambulance?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

No. Normally they communicate to our -- to their dispatcher.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Why?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Through FRES.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Yeah, but why can't the first responder which is a police officer be able to respond with the fire department or the ambulance corps?

CHIEF ROBILOTTO:

We do, we do respond with the ambulance call.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Yeah but through your dispatcher, I'm talking about directly.

CHIEF ROBILOTTO:

Radio link to radio link. It's a question of expense in the system. The Suffolk County Police Department maintains and phones a radio system, 800 Megahertz Radio System, we would need to get into issues with the FCC on this. FRES is in the process of supplying radios to certain hospitals and certain ambulances. The work that needed to be done on the tie-lines is an entire infrastructure built at Police Headquarters regarding this issue. The 800 Megahertz radio is a very expensive device, the actual radio itself, it's a talk-in/talk-out radio, you hear and speak over it. To supply one to every rescue unit in the County is a funding issue, it's also a dispatch issue as to the number of personnel that could come up on that radio at one time. But the linkage, depending on which fire department it is, as the Commissioner said, it could be Babylon Central, it could be FRES, the dispatchers can speak relatively freely, it's hard-wired, it's wired right in, the 1st Precinct dispatcher is hard-wired into Babylon Central.

LEG. LINDSAY:

But again, everything is going through the dispatcher.

CHIEF ROBILOTTO:

Exactly.

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COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

I think --

LEG. LINDSAY:

Which has to add additional time.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

But I think, Mr. Lindsay, when you talking about dispatchers -- a police officer talking to an ambulance on the way, I'm not sure just in --

LEG. LINDSAY:

Well, for example, Commissioner, you know, our Fire Rescue service for the most part are volunteers. And I realize it's hard to get people to volunteer today, I know some of our departments are going to full-time EMT's at certain times of the day to man shifts because we don't really have any other choice. For example, if a sector car was dispatched to a scene and it was found to be not life threatening, you know, which I'm sure happens, you know, the ambulance could be stopped midstream and service another call.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Again, that's done now in terms of certain information is passed right on from -- if the officer is the first one on the scene, I want to be careful because he's not -- our officers are trained as EMT's, but they would not likely make a decision to call off an ambulance. You know, in other words, if there's any question whatsoever as to the nature of the injury or illness, the ambulance will continue to roll until such time as somebody on the ring can make a decision. But let us take the instance of where a medical emergency call is made -- can I just go over now? The most likely thing that happens, the most common thing is when the officer, police officer arrives, and in many instances he or she is the first person on the scene, the person who is the subject of the call refuses medical assistance, they've decided for whatever reason they're all right, they don't need to go to the doctor, they don't need to go to a hospital. All right, well, our officer will then inform his dispatcher, her dispatcher and that goes right to FRES and then the call is canceled. But I don't see that -- you know, I think at times it could become even more confusing and less efficient to be trying to have a police officer at the scene communicating with an ambulance team crew on the way to the scene, I really don't know what the efficacy of that would be.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Well, one of the things that -- you know, it certainly doesn't relate to us but there's been stories in the newspaper the last couple of the days about 9/11 and the fire service and the Police Department not being able to communicate with each other.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

That's a different story.

LEG. LINDSAY:

It's a different situation to a certain extent. All I'm looking to do is to save time in this critical period if somebody is desperately in need of medical attention, and that's what I was asking. Is there any

way in that process from that initial 911 call that could be shortened to get that ambulance on the scene faster?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

We have done so much with the 911, Enhanced 911 that is now -- 911 is not a system where they have to wait for the caller to give them information, the information is already supplied. And if there's the feeling that there's enough time they will verify what they see on the scene, but I think Enhanced 911 by itself has dramatically shortened the time between a call and getting a response to the call. I think electronically in terms of any kind of system that we have in place, I

don't know that we are doing anything, you know, any more that we should be doing to move that call along.

The biggest single problem that I think we face here in the County is, as pointed out in that newspaper article, the human factor, the availability of ambulance crews to respond once a call is received.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Could we get FRES in the middle of this, too?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Yeah, I was just going to ask you. I know that Dr. Alicandro and Clare Bradley and the gentlemen who is the Chairman of Remsco from the Police Department came and met with -- in my office and Legislator Fields was there and Legislator Fisher and Legislator Alden sent a representative, but to go over this whole procedure and process and I think that they were doing that with all the Legislators; did they not get to you yet?

LEG. LINDSAY:

No, they absolutely did get to me.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay.

LEG. LINDSAY:

But I have a personal reason for doing this. It's something that's on my radar screen.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay.

LEG. LINDSAY:

I'm looking to shorten the process.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Well, yeah. No, I --

LEG. LINDSAY:

Could I ask FRES, do you see any advantage or anything that we can do in the communication system to shorten the time?

MR. HORST:

We're actually currently in the midst of reprogramming all the 800 Megahertz Radios that have been provided through the Department of

Health Service that are in each ambulance in Suffolk County. When that is done, the Police Department and the EMS side of our operation will

be working on the same radio system which would make it much easier to do. If it was found advantageous to switch over or to have that ability to talk from the police car to an ambulance, that's something that likely could be programmed in by virtue of creating different talk groups. However, I have to agree with what has been said here, it might also add confusion to the process. One of the advantages of going through the dispatch center is that part of our dispatching protocol is that we use emergency medical dispatch protocols which prioritize various calls that come in for medical aid assistance. Some of those -- they're categorized into five different levels and then they're subcategorized as to the type of medical emergency by B. So it's possible we could take the lowest level which is an alpha call and send out an ambulance company which by virtue of the protocol itself, the company would respond with no red lights, no siren, we'd go in a normal fashion, there's not an urgent need to get there as compared to an {echo} call which is at the opposite end of the spectrum, it would require a very urgent response. So we could have a police officer at the scene calling in, talking to an ambulance that's theoretically going to their call which might be an alpha call when, in fact, it should be directed and going to another call that has a much higher medical emergency to it. So it would take more than just a means of communicating and when you cut the dispatcher out of that, the ambulance driver may not be aware of the level of the call or the EMT.

LEG. LINDSAY:

If there's a medical emergency in my house, am I better off calling 911 or the local fire department?

MR. HORST:

No, you're definitely better calling 911. The system provides us, as already indicated, the information about where the call is coming from and what the location is. So if anything happened during the midst of that phone call that you couldn't continue on, we know where the call is coming from; if you call the fire department directly on a seven digit call, they will not have that information.

(*Legislator Binder entered the meeting at 10:33 A.M.*)

LEG. LINDSAY:

But doesn't -- you know, if I call 911 it goes to the police dispatcher to the fire dispatcher to the local fire department. If I call the local fire department, am I not short-cutting it by two phone calls?

MR. HORST:

It depends on the district that you're speaking about. We dispatch directly for about 55 fire departments in the County, Babylon Central does eleven, Smithtown does four, or actually five at this point. So the majority of the fire departments responding are being done through

the 911 system. There might be an instance, as you're explaining, where it would perhaps be quicker making that call going directly to the provider of the service, but also all keep in mind that many of the firehouses in Suffolk County are not staffed during the day, they

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do not have a dispatcher. So it's not easy to answer yes to that question. Probably in a very small percentage of the time it might be advantageous, but I think the value of the E-911 System and the value of going through the dispatch centers far outweighs the idea of going directly to the fire department.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Once the call comes in, that ambulance cannot roll unless it has a driver and an EMT?

MR. HORST:

That's correct.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Okay. Commissioner, you said before that some of our police officers are EMT's.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Actually we try to keep, you know, with reality, a reality check that it's constantly an -- you have to constantly update the EMT status, you know, retraining for our officers. But we try, the goal is that every officer in the patrol division is EMT certified, yes.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Is there any --

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

That's basic EMT now, they're not certified for advanced life support.

LEG. LINDSAY:

If we just had a driver and a police EMT on the scene, we couldn't roll the ambulance?

MR. HORST:

In fact, that's probably happened in instances where the Police Department or police officer on scene that's an EMT has actually gotten into the back of the ambulance and continued care as the patient was transported to the hospital. As you mentioned earlier, there are also fire districts and ambulance companies that hire personnel, EMT personnel to be on staff during the day when they have difficulty getting volunteers to answer the calls. So it doesn't --

LEG. LINDSAY:

What's the solution to this problem besides more paid EMT's which is the obvious?

MR. HORST:

I wish I could tell you what the solution is in one easy sentence, but I don't think it is a simple answer because of the way the services are provided in this County. And it's actually at the level of the provider that's going to make the decision as to how to best do that unless it's legislated differently.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Unless it's what? I'm sorry.

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MR. HORST:

Legislated differently, which would probably take an issue at the State level rather than the local level.

LEG. LINDSAY:

And what would we have to do on a State level?

MR. HORST:

Well, as I understand it, the State Constitution calls -- allows for a Home Rule, and since most fire -- all fire districts, I'm sorry, in the County are considered an entity of local government, they have the first say as to how they're going to deliver their services. And unless I -- and I could be incorrect in this assumption, but it would be up to them to decide if they wanted to participate in a regional or a County wide approach to resolving the problem.

LEG. LINDSAY:

County-wide ambulance corps, is that what you're talking about?

MR. HORST:

Well, even if it's done collectively through the existing agencies as a cooperative agreement approach to it, it still would take their agreement to doing that.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator Bishop.

LEG. BISHOP:

Good morning. I guess I will direct my initial question to FRES. The Remsco Report had a series of specific recommendations, do you support those recommendations; does FRES, not you personally?

MR. HORST:

The Commissioner had commented on those on several occasions and his concern is that the volunteer providers have the opportunity to review

those recommendations or standards as I guess they were first proposed. That process is going on or probably was completed I guess this past Monday night and they have until September 4th I believe to provide written comment. The position of FRES is at this point, from the Commissioner's point of view, is to allow the opportunity for the providers to comment on what has been put forth and then work from that point on.

LEG. BISHOP:

All right. So FRES doesn't have a position opposed to the recommendations?

MR. HORST:

I think conceptually FRES as well as all the other providers are in agreement where there is a need to improve upon the delivery of services. However, that should not be construed as support for the specifics that were provided in the initial report.

LEG. BISHOP:

So you are not supporting this. I just want yes or -- you're not supporting the specifics, not at this time?

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MR. HORST:

Not at this time would I say that FRES is supporting the very specifics.

LEG. BISHOP:

Because you feel that the departments were not part of the process.

MR. HORST:

That is correct.

LEG. BISHOP:

Even though that they had -- the volunteers had a representation at the table, correct?

MR. HORST:

You mean the Remsco counsel? Yes.

LEG. BISHOP:

So now we're waiting until September for written opinion on it.

MR. HORST:

There were two hearings for the service providers to comment at, one I believe in Riverhead and one here in Hauppauge. There was a window provided for accepting written comments on what was proposed and I believe that closes on September 4th.

LEG. BISHOP:

Do you think it's possible that the Suffolk County system will be able to meet the national standard of 90% within nine minutes?

MR. HORST:

I'm not too sure that's even a national standard. My understanding is there is no --

LEG. BISHOP:

Well, assuming it is a national standard.

MR. HORST:

Well, there are some problems with doing that and it goes back to what I was describing before with the emergency medical dispatch. If you have -- if you prioritize a call and make it an alpha call, the lowest priority which could be put off to take care of more urgent calls that might come in at the same time, you may not get an ambulance on scene in nine minutes.

LEG. BISHOP:

Does FRES believe that there is any measurable standard that should be adopted and for which the department should be held accountable to? In other words, if you don't agree that 90% within nine minutes, do you agree that 100% within 15 minutes; is there anything that you find is a measurable standard that's acceptable?

MR. HORST:

There is no standard that I'm aware of that exists at the moment. If one were to be created, it would have to take into account the fact that we dispatch in a priority bases, that in some instances it may

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not be acceptable and that's obviously the reason for the 10% leeway. But it would have to take into consideration all the elements that go into sending an ambulance out to an emergency call.

LEG. BISHOP:

Is there a standard currently?

MR. HORST:

Not that I'm aware of.

LEG. BISHOP:

Should there be a standard?

MR. HORST:

I don't believe that there should be a standard at this point.

LEG. BISHOP:

Okay. That's clear and that's to me very troubling, but if that's the position of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services, so be it.

To the Police Commissioner, the communication issue between the ambulance and the first responder, I think the greatest value for that would be in the peace of mind for both the patient and the family, they could say look, they're 10 minutes away, they're five minutes away; does that occur now, do we have that kind of information?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

We could get that information the first responder -- you know, let me just -- one thing I just want to clarify, Mr. Bishop, before -- I don't know if I was clear enough to you, Legislator Lindsay, that the call, when I say they pass it on to FRES, it's not after the information has been received. Once they hear it's either a medical, once it's determined by the emergency complaint operator that a medical emergency is what we're talking about, she automatically -- it's usually a female operator -- they automatically then just hit one key and it, in effect, becomes a party line call, as the Chief was trying to describe for you. It's not wait for the next -- for FRES to pick it up, FRES and us are listening at the same time to the description of what the emergency is. So that the FRES dispatcher who let us -- it's the emergency complaint operator but a FRES dispatcher and the FRES dispatcher is also trained as an EMT, so they're picking up the call with the trained ear as to what the medical emergency is. I just wanted to be sure you understand, that's all happening at the same time.

Back to your question. We can get that information simply by the officer going through the police dispatcher and saying, you know, what's the ETA and on the ambulance, and that's obtained, you know, from the FRES dispatcher as to how much time is left for the ambulance to arrive.

LEG. LINDSAY:

If I may, Madam Chair? Did you want to say something else?

LEG. BISHOP:

I just have one follow-up on that point.

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LEG. LINDSAY:

Go ahead.

LEG. BISHOP:

One follow-up on that point. If, as happens too often, the ambulance is not going to be there for 20 minutes, the Police Department never takes it upon themselves to provide transportation or will they in exigent circumstances?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Yeah, our rules and procedures do not -- they don't forbid but we don't encourage use of transport by police.

LEG. BISHOP:

You don't forbid it, that's good.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

First of all, you're dealing with the singular officer at the scene most likely and it's just against all medical protocol to do so. Has it been done? Yeah. If it's a life or death emergency and it's whether or not this person will survive, then the officer can make a decision, you know, will transport in the car, hopefully a family member can act as the third party. But if that happens, it does happen but it happens very rarely because it really goes against -- the medical people would tell you, it goes against all medical advice to do that.

LEG. BISHOP:

It probably goes against all bureaucratic thrust period, but there probably are times when it needs to be done and I'm glad there's no set rule that it could never be done.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

No, we don't say it can never be done, no.

LEG. BISHOP:

Okay, good.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator Lindsay?

LEG. LINDSAY:

The only thing that I wanted to say to both FRES and the Police Department is we've got to improve on this, guys, we really do because the system isn't working. And I'm not saying this as a political issue, I had an incident in my own family, July 2nd my brother-in-law went into cardiac arrest; three calls to 911, 23 minutes before the ambulance got there, he died, he was 57 years old. That's not acceptable, not acceptable by any standards and we need some kind of standard.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. On a different topic, Legislator Postal.

LEG. POSTAL:

I just wanted to point out that in today's paper there was a story

about a fugitive who was arrested, who had committed acts of child sexual abuse back in the 80's, and this is the second time I've read a story in the paper about the task force that made this arrest. And I thought it was kind of worth noting for all of us that there's a congressionally funded, I believe, Fugitive Task Force that's operating out of the U.S. Marshal's Office in Central Islip that involves the Police Department, the Police Department is in on, working on these arrests, the District Attorney's Office, I believe Probation.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:
Yes.

LEG. POSTAL:

And just the two stories I've read about, I don't know about anything else, but the first one involved an arrest in Wyandanch at which a quantity of narcotics were seized, two or three weapons were seized, and a fugitive who had committed a homicide was found. So, I mean, those are two remarkable occurrences, today's story about this man who had sodomized I don't know how many young boys and the previous arrest and I just think that we should all be aware that this fugitive task force exists.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Just if you wanted to flesh that out a bit, this was a U.S. Marshal Service initiative that was allowed. Previously there have been some Congressional -- it requires Congressional approval to undertake the kind of operation they're undertaking because they are not seeking fugitives wanted necessarily on a Federal warrant, and that was the legal restraint. Exercising I guess Legislative good sense, a Congressional act was passed which opened up to the Marshal Service a wider spectrum of possible crimes, crimes that they could go after where warrants were outstanding, not necessarily on a Federal warrant basis. And based on that, they have now formed these task forces or these strike forces. Here in the southern district and the eastern district, I believe the number that was given to us yesterday was that they have made over 244 arrests of fugitives, and in Suffolk County alone that number within Suffolk County, there were 44 of those that were Suffolk County warrants where people were picked up. The most dramatic one was the subject that was picked up in California who had 20 years worth of eluding the justice system. But we do yes, we have a detective assigned to that and we also have Probation, Suffolk County Probation and the District Attorney's Office also and New York State Parole are working also with that same task force.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. Are there any other questions? There are a number of new resolutions on the agenda that you might want to comment on before we go to the agenda; 1803 is one, and any others you wish to comment on.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Yeah. I know that the representatives here from the District Attorney's Office and from the Sheriff's Department, and based on prior conversation with Mr. Denzler and Bob Kearon from the District

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Attorney's Office, I think I can speak, you know, for all three departments; if you wish to get any more information from either of the other two representatives, they're hear.

One of the concerns that all, the District Attorney, the Sheriff and myself have is the issue of the funding, directing it to be taken from Asset Forfeiture Funds. And that is, you know, always a concern to us, that Asset Forfeiture Funds should, you know, be -- by the virtue of how that system is set up, it's at the discretion of the department head who receives the funds as to where they shall be dispersed. And I know historically it's always been a concern on the part of department heads, whether previous Commissioners, previous District Attorney's, previous Sheriffs, it is a concern of all three sitting department heads in those three instances now that, you know, we not be directed to use the Asset Forfeiture Funds.

The principal of what the bill speaks to, Legislator Binder's bill, you know, there are just some issues that I would have to raise in terms of what I -- I'm not quite sure what the purpose of going through the level two training would be in terms of what kind of level two, that's more confusion though, you know, it's just more puzzlement than an objection. But I do have to register, and I speak I think on behalf of the other two department heads, our objection to directing the use of Asset Forfeiture Funds for any one specific -- for one specific purpose like this. I think it should be left to the department head because of the nature of those funds and how they're given; they're given with the intent of having them used at the discretion of the department head.

LEG. BINDER:
Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Apart from the funding mechanism, did you wish to address the intent of the bill as far as --

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Well, all right, I guess if you want me to I can. Arabic training is a generic term that I think has to be refined. There are over 55 million people that speak Arabic in the world and they go everywhere from Northern Africa right through the Arabian Peninsula. In fact, there's many more millions of people that can speak or can understand one level of Arabic and that's the Arabic of the Koran, the Holy Book

of the Islamic Faith which is everybody who studies it studies it in Arabic regardless of their native tongue and the Koran is studied and memorized in Arabic.

There is a tremendous variation in terms of our Arabic, both either spoken or -- well, spoken especially. Written Arabic is a little bit more uniform and more -- it's more universal. It's the classical Arabic that's found in which the Koran is written in Arabic {alufusha}, that's the so-called the eloquent language. Spoken Arabic, though, can vary from all different kinds of dialects, it's called the popular language or the people language, {alluyah almaya}. And that, it's almost impossible to certify one level of learning in terms of the level of understanding Arabic because the spoken Arabic in Egypt,

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the Arabic spoken by an Egyptian is completely different than the Arabic spoken by an Iraqi. When military forces train for spoken Arabic, they specifically target the dialect of Arabic they're training for. The other target of the written Arabic, the {alufusha}, is more universal but I don't know what advantage it would gain us to have that level of training. Because if it's a written Arabic statement we're trying to figure out or trying to determine what's in there, what to translate, we would go to the resources such as the Joint Terrorist Task Force which has Arabic translators as part of its resources or to some university, you know, university language department that we would go to for the translation. If it's spoken Arabic that we would be training our officers for, I don't know which dialect of spoken Arabic I would be looking to train them for.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Are we still participating in the Joint Terrorism Task Force?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Yes, we are.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

So you have that readily available to you then.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Oh, yeah, it's available at all times.

LEG. BINDER:

Madam Chair, could I ask some questions on that?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Certainly Legislator Binder.

LEG. BINDER:

Thanks. Commissioner, I assume you read the legislation, I'm just kind

of curious where you get the word directing you to use the Asset Forfeiture money. Is there a word direct there, because I was pretty careful not to put a direction in there. And what I'm getting at, I'll keep talking while you're looking for it.

The bill authorizes, and it doesn't go further than that, it says that if you were to use at your discretion, your discretion to train people to do this then you could use that money, Asset Forfeiture money, for this particular purpose. It doesn't -- you know, often we put in RESOLVED clauses authorize, empower and direct, meaning we would direct the Commissioner to send two police officers to this and we would direct you to use Asset Forfeiture money to do that. What -- as you're reading it you can see it authorizes you to do it and if you decide in your judgment, so it still gives you the leeway of judgment, then this gives you the place where you could use the money.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Well, I'm just going to the second RESOLVED clause, Legislator Binder, that says, "The cost of this program shall be paid for from Suffolk County Forfeiture Funds."

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LEG. BINDER:

Right, if you decide, at your discretion, because -- and the reason that's there is that we're talking right now about very large deficits and all kinds of concerns about money. So what we're saying is we don't really -- this bill would say we think this is something, if you think you should do this you can go do it, but we're also letting you know there isn't money really available on the operating side or the police side, so what we're saying is this is the place where you would go if you decide. But do you notice that it doesn't direct you to actually do the program; do you understand that about the bill?

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:

Yes. With that understanding, then I have no objection to the bill, if it's left to the discretion of the department head whether to enter into the program or to utilize Asset Forfeiture Funds for the program.

LEG. BINDER:

Right. And let me just -- I can also direct some other comments to the other question of dialects. I understand and I understood when I put this together that there are many dialects, but you've got to figure people in Al-Queda talk to each other, they have a particular dialect and we know what that is, number one. We also know that there's a preponderance of people that come from certain places, they have certain dialects that are probably at the top of the hit parade, probably Saudi Arabia and Egypt. So we pretty much know -- it's not for sure, now we can't be sure that they'll come from there but we know the preponderance of people who might be causing us a problem.

And I don't know what dialect specifically they use in Al-Queda, but they're speaking something and they're all communicating. And so we probably can figure out what the most important for our guys to know, that's number one.

Number two, my concern about using a university or other task forces is the time between our getting the information or the tap, hearing it, getting the tape out, getting it back and having a conversation, God forbid, Brookhaven labs could be dust and, you know, I don't know that we want to spend the time in between to do that. And so if we had someone on staff -- maybe it won't be six, maybe the three of you will get together and you'll all decide there's one guy, two people and that would cover what you need. The point is it gives you the ability to do it at your discretion and you guys sit down and decide what you think is the best way to effectuate that.

I did not want to, and I specifically did not want to, direct you to do the program other than to have you think about it and give you the option, and also kind of let you know that we really don't have the money for anything. So if you do it, this is where you're going to have to get the money from because we don't have the money.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:
Okay.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Okay. Are there any other resolutions on the agenda that anyone would like to have the Commissioner comment on before we move to the agenda? Okay, very good. Let us then move to the agenda.

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I know Vinny is here about 1638, so if you want to come forward, Vinny Iaria from Probation. But in the meantime --

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:
Legislator Carpenter, just --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Sure.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:
Does this --it's really more a housekeeping detail. There are two separate bills about 4th Precinct renovations; I assume that that's based on keeping an option open whether the 4th Precinct will be renovated or a new construction on a program undertake. In other words, one addresses the question of 4th Precinct as a construction program, another talks about renovation costs.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Well, it was my understanding -- and I was going to move to table these because it was my understanding in speaking with Budget Review that there was an overall plan for this campus.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:
That's what I had, too.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
You know, waiting for that to come in might be the more appropriate thing to do. But as we get further into the year, if the funding for this would be jeopardized then at that point in time, you know, October, November we can always move forward with it; that was what I was thinking.

COMMISSIONER GALLAGHER:
Okay.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Okay. Let us go then to 1251.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

1251-02 (P) - Adopting Local law No. 2002, to expand SCOPE of County Forfeiture Law to cover driving while impaired (Towle).

LEG. POSTAL:
Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Motion to table, second. All those in favor? Opposed?
Motion is tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

1564-02 (P) - Establishing Leadership Education Program for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Corps. (Postal).

LEG. POSTAL:
I'm going to withdraw this resolution and I'm asking the Clerk's Office to do that because I think the Remsco Report and the

recommendations may address some of the problems I was hoping to address with this resolution.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Thank you, Legislator Postal.

1638-02 (P) - Establishing Anti-Gang Youth Bureau to educate school children (Fields). Vinny Iaria, if you could just come forward, or we could skip over it if you want to finish your conversation.

MR. IARIA:

You had asked --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

I had asked at the last meeting if you would please contact Legislator Fields.

MR. IARIA:

Right. We had a two hour meeting with Joe Michaels, myself and a couple of my staff and we had a nice chat about juvenile crime prevention, what we're doing with the commission, what our recommendations are in terms of dealing with gang prevention and youth development. And at the end of it, I think what she wants us to do is come up with some recommendations for her to maybe bring back to the Legislature. And one of my recommendations was that Legislator Fields takes a look at some of the models that we're using. I think that the model that you have with the Children's Commission is a really good one in that it gets the community members involved in juvenile crime prevention and it's across the board, there's Legislative representation, there's business representation, there are youth representation and it's working at a community level. And that's the kind of thing that from my reading the literature is the way to go.

You don't just focus on one particular issue like gangs, you focus on things like youth development and broad-based prevention that will deal with substance abuse, gang issues, teen-age pregnancy, all of those issues on a local level that will be the -- get at the causal factors of why kids join gangs. I think that's the approach that, you know, we would recommend from our studies.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. So is it your sense that she's going to be withdrawing this?

MR. IARIA:

You know, I didn't ask her that --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay.

MR. IARIA:

-- and that's certainly her prerogative.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

We'll continue to table it but I think perhaps at a future point it might be helpful to have you and Joe Michaels and some others from the

make a presentation.

MR. IARIA:

We'd love to because we have -- we also have that research that can help communities get grants.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Yeah, I think that would be helpful. And maybe what we'll do is invite other Legislators, tell them that it's going to be -- the presentation is going to be made and perhaps they can send a representative down. Thank you. Okay, then we will -- I have a motion by Legislator Postal and I will second to table 1638. Tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

We'll move to 1648-02 (P) - Establish common sense police emergency response act of 2002 (Towle). I'm going to table that, second by Legislator Nowick. All those in favor? Opposed? The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

IR 1803-02 (P) - Authorizing Arabic Language Program for public safety officials (Binder). Is there a motion? No motion.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

I will make a motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to table by Legislator Caracappa, I will second that.

LEG. BINDER:

Can I --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

1806 --

LEG. BINDER:

I just want to make a comment on 1803.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. If you wouldn't mind, one of the Legislators is in a hurry so I'm trying to speed through this agenda, so if you could hold it until we're done voting, unless it's very, very, very brief.

LEG. BINDER:

I will wait.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, 1806-02 (P) - Establish Community College Tuition Assistance Program for Volunteer Firefighters (Carpenter). I will make that

motion.

LEG. POSTAL:
Second.

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CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Second by Legislator Postal. All those in favor? Opposed?
Approved (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

1829-02 (P) - Adopting Local Law No. 2002, a Local Law authorizing property tax exemption for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers (Cooper). This needs a public hearing?

MR. SABATINO:
Yeah, public hearing, it's got to be tabled.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Motion to table, second. All those in favor? Opposed?
Tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

1832-02 (P) - Adopting Local Law No. 2002, a Local Law implementing volunteer firefighter and ambulance worker County real property tax exemption (County Executive). Again, a Local Law, we'll need a motion to table by Legislator Postal, second by Legislator Lindsay.
Motion is tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

1857-02 (P) - Establish a policy for police line-up identification.

LEG. POSTAL:
Motion to table to -- well, just to the next meeting because I'm looking at some necessities for additions and changes.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
I will second that. Motion. 1857 is tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

1860-02 (P) - Establishing Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Education Policy for Suffolk County (Cooper).

LEG. CARACAPPA:
Explanation, please.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:
Counsel, if you would please give us an overview of that.

MR. SABATINO:
This legislation does several things. One, it will require anyone with a contract with the County receiving \$50,000 or more to have at least two management individuals take a six month education program

that will be provided through the Suffolk County Advisory Committee on Child Protection to basically learn how to deal with the issues of not just the child abuse categories that were adopted several weeks ago but it's adding another 15 categories which get into areas like alcohol and tobacco abuse, drug abuse, pornography, prostitution, physical threats to children; so it's not just the original 20 child abuse categories but also another 15 categories. And the idea is to have a six month training course and then a certificate would be issued that the training was completed and then at that point the individuals that got the training would have to pass that training on to the rest of the people that work for that contract agency.

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CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Legislator Postal and then Legislator Caracappa.

LEG. POSTAL:

Yeah, I have some questions. Would this requirement apply to not-for-profit agencies as well as profit making contractors?

MR. SABATINO:

Yes, anyone that's more than \$50,000 of compensation or receipts from the County, yes.

LEG. POSTAL:

And that would be regardless of the number of employees that agency has?

MR. SABATINO:

Yes, the \$50,000 threshold was put into this bill which is not in the child abuse reporting policy bill, that one was across the board regardless of dollar amount.

LEG. POSTAL:

And who would pay for the course?

MR. SABATINO:

That's the contract vendor.

LEG. POSTAL:

Well, I just have to say, Madam Chair, that I have some serious problems with this. And certainly I feel very strongly about the issue of child sexual abuse, but I can tell you that I have some contract agencies in my district which are, number one, not-for-profit; number two, I can think of one in particular that has one paid employee, so it would have to send a person who works without being paid. And in addition, they work very hard to stay out of the red because we don't fund them with lots of money, so that there's very little to spare. And they really spin gold out of straw to make

ends meet and to now ask them to not only send two people for this course but to pay for it as well I think is terribly burdensome and I think there needs to be some tweaking before I can support something like this.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. Legislator Caracappa?

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Thank you, Madam Chair. My first question to Counsel is mentioned the committee -- name that committee again that was going to initiate this?

MR. SABATINO:

Yeah, the organization is the Suffolk County Advisory Committee on Child Protection.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Who are they, who serves on that?

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MR. SABATINO:

I don't know who they are personally. Legislator Cooper, when he made the request, indicated that he had met with them and this is something that evolved out of that discussion. I don't know who the individuals are, though.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

So what you're saying is they would basically come up with the curriculum --

MR. SABATINO:

Curriculum, right.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

The curriculum that would be then taken by each and every contract agency or not-for-profit.

MR. SABATINO:

(Shook head yes).

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Now, that being said, we as a Public Safety Committee had discussion a few -- I guess a month and a half ago of picking a contract agency to provide the educational component based in Legislator Cooper's bill. It was a clear understanding that we all -- I put one forward for immediate consideration, Parents for Megan's Law, the committee came up with a very good idea to put a host of contract agencies that were able to do that sort of training forward and that the contract agency

or not-for-profit would be able to choose from who they wanted to go to which was I think fair and the right way to go. Now it changes again and we want a committee who we do not even know who sits on to come up with the curriculum that these agencies, not-for-profits and the like, are going to be going to for this training. It's starting to become really, really a mishmash in my view.

I think with relation to the education component of the original Cooper bill, we should still move forward with what is Legislator Nowick's bill that she tabled in the last General Session and pick those qualified I believe five, four or five agencies that I think this Legislature felt very comfortable with as opposed to going through a -- again, a mishmash of now a new bureaucracy about a -- from a committee who we do not know their position, we do not know who sits on it. So I would ask for this be tabled.

LEG. POSTAL:

I would second that.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

All right. We have a motion to table and a second. All those in favor? Opposed? The resolution is tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

1861-02 (P) - Establishing contract agency selection process for Education Component of Universal Child Sexual Abuse Reporting Police for Suffolk County (Cooper). Motion to table, second by Legislator Caracappa. Tabled (VOTE: 6-0-0-0).

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1862-02 (P) - Modifying Universal Child Sexual Abuse Reporting Policy for Suffolk County (Cooper).

LEG. POSTAL:

Madam Chair?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Yes.

LEG. POSTAL:

That just changes the procedure for reporting to include I believe the Police Department; am I right?

MR. SABATINO:

It does two things. It goes back to the original version by replacing CPS registry as the contact point with the pertinent Police Department, that's what the original version had. Then somebody had suggested a change to go to the Child Protection Registry, but this would go back to the original version. And also, the deadline for reporting would be changed from 48 hours to 24 hours, it would be

reduced by 24 hours.

LEG. POSTAL:

What do you mean -- can you just clarify, the deadline for reporting or investigating?

MR. SABATINO:

In other words, the old -- the original statute, the reporting policy statute said if you get the information you had to report it under the old version to CPS within 48 hours, now you would report it to the pertinent policy agency within 24 hours. Those were the two changes.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. Is there a motion?

LEG. POSTAL:

I make a motion to approve.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to approve by Legislator Postal, I'll second. All those in favor? Opposed?

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Was that tabling?

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

No, to approve. It changes the reporting mechanism to go to 9/11 or the pertinent village, town and County Police Department instead of New York State Child Protective Services and closes the window from 48 hours mandated reporting to 24. So we have a motion and a second to approve. All those in favor? Opposed? It is approved (VOTE: 5-0-0-1 Not present - Legislator Lindsay).

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IR 1873-02 (P) - Amending the 2002 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds in connection with the purchase and installation of equipment under the Federal Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA) (CP3201) (County Executive).

MR. SABATINO:

This is just changing the financing from pay-as-you-go to capital, it will take 14 votes.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay.

MR. SABATINO:

It's a change in financing, we already provided for it in the budget.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, thank you. I'll make that motion, second by Legislator Nowick. All those in favor? Opposed? Approved (VOTE: 5-0-0-1 Not Present - Legislator Lindsay).

IR 1875-02 (P) - Appropriating funds in connection with the construction of a new arson Training Facility at the Suffolk County Fire Training Academy (CP3414) (County Executive).

LEG. POSTAL:

Motion

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion by Legislator Postal, second by Legislator Bishop. All those in favor? Opposed? The resolution is approved (VOTE: 5-0-0-1 - Not Present: Legislator Lindsay).

IR 1877-02 (P) - Appropriating funds in connection with the replacement and installation of fume hood system, identification section, Suffolk County Police Department (CP3164) (County Executive). Motion. Second by Legislator Caracappa. All those in favor? Opposed? Approved (VOTE: 5-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Lindsay).

1878-02 (P) - Appropriating funds in connection with the renovations & additions to Police Precinct Building - 4th Precinct (CP3184) (County Executive). We're going to table that, as we had discussed earlier. All those in favor? Opposed? Tabled (VOTE: 5-0-0-1 Not Present - Legislator Lindsay).

IR 1910-02 (P) - Amending the 2002 Capital Budget and Program and appropriating funds for the purchase of automated external defibrillators, AED's for public safety vehicles (CP 3205.522) (Crecca). I will make that motion.

LEG. POSTAL:

I'll second it.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Second by Legislator Postal. All those -- yes, Legislator Caracappa.

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LEG. CARACAPPA:

On the motion. These are different than the ones that back I think in '97 Legislator Towle had arranged for.

LEG. CRECCA:

I'll explain.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Legislator Crecca, please.

LEG. CRECCA:

Yeah, I'm the sponsor of this bill. And actually we thought it was already funded, it was an error, Budget Review and Counsel never put in a funding mechanism for the bill. We had approved this bill. This was for the additional I believe it was 96 vehicles that are on patrol that are first responders to scenes that do not have AED's. What happened was -- if you want to call it, it's an expansion of Legislator Towle's bill, they never had enough money to fill all the vehicles, this will make sure that a much greater sector of cars have those vehicles, those AED's. And I've spoken to Chief Robilotto and we're going to expedite once this funding bill comes through to try to purchase these as quickly as possible and get them in the cars.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Excellent.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you. We have a motion and a second. All those in favor? Opposed? Approved (VOTE: 5-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Lindsay).

That takes us to Sense 55-02 (P) - Memorializing Sense Resolution requesting New York State Parole Board to reject parole for cop-killer Jalil Abdul Muntaquim (Presiding Officer Tonna).

LEG. BISHOP:

What is this case? I mean --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

It's Sense 55.

MR. SABATINO:

This goes back to the infamous Waverly Jones murder that took place in 1971. Two police officers were shot to death by an individual who was a member of the Black Liberation Army. At the time it was a very high profile incident and this individual -- one of the individuals, I should say, who used to be known as Anthony Bottom and now is known as Jalil Abdul Muntaquim is up for parole and this is an expression of opposition to that request for parole.

LEG. BISHOP:

This happened in Suffolk; what is this? I truly do not -- never heard of this, so.

MR. SABATINO:

This was a very -- well, I was in -- 1971, I was still in school. It was a very high profile case at the time, it was a police shoot-out in

the city.

LEG. BISHOP:

The city. Is there a Suffolk tie to this?

MR. SABATINO:

No, the tie is that the law enforcement community feels very strongly about the message that it would send. It's a law enforcement issue.

LEG. BISHOP:

Okay. Nobody spoke to me about it.

MR. SPERO:

The son of one of the officers that got killed lives in Suffolk County. Also, it was an African-American and a white officer and they openly killed the white officer.

LEG. BISHOP:

It was an assassination.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. We have a motion by -- I'll make the motion, second by Legislator Postal. All those in favor? Opposed? Approved (VOTE: 5-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Lindsay).

Vinny had asked if he could address the committee about a CN that is coming forward.

LEG. BISHOP:

Madam Chair, I was on the prevailing side of a vote. We moved with such alacrity through the agenda that I didn't have a chance to cast my vote in the manner which I wanted to. On 1803-02, that's the Arabic language authorization.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Yeah, it was tabled.

LEG. BISHOP:

I wanted to make a motion to approve. I guess I was on the prevailing side because I didn't catch it. I don't know if there's a second for that.

MR. SABATINO:

You have to make a motion to reconsider.

LEG. CARACAPPA:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay, there's a motion and a second to reconsider the tabling motion. All those in favor of the reconsideration? Opposed? All right, it's before us again.

LEG. BISHOP:

I don't know if there's a second or not, but I would make a motion to approve.

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LEG. CARACAPPA:

I will second.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Motion to approve, second by Legislator Caracappa.

LEG. BISHOP:

It seems to me that since the bill is not a mandate, it's an authorization and a suggestion, it doesn't seem to be an unreasonable suggestion to me.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

That's fine if you want to make that motion, and a second by Legislator Caracappa. All those in favor? Opposed? I'm opposed.

LEG. POSTAL:

I'm opposed.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Resolution -- 3-2, we need four votes, the resolution fails
(VOTE: 2-3-0-1 - In Favor: Legislators Bishop & Caracappa - Not Present: Legislator Lindsay).

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Okay. Vinny?

MR. IARIA:

Just a point of information. I believe the County Executive's Office has approved my CN request to accept funding for a Juvenile Day Reporting Program. This has to do --

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Vinny, could you please bring the microphone closer? It's a little difficult hearing you.

MR. IARIA:

Okay. We're discussing a Juvenile Day Reporting Center as part of -- one of the recommendations of the Strike Force that was created by the Legislature to reduce foster care. We have gotten some money from the Department of Criminal Justice Services, we needed a resolution to

accept those funds. And I asked for a CN so we could get expedited on this and I believe the County Exec's Office is going to do that. So I wanted to give you a heads up that that will be, you know, before your next meeting.

CHAIRPERSON CARPENTER:

Thank you very much, Vinny. I appreciate that heads up. And if you have a copy on anything that you can share with us, I'll give it to the rest of the Legislators on Tuesday so they know it's coming.

Anything else before the committee? Legislator Binder had wished to address us, but I think he's walked out. Okay, the committee is adjourned.

(*THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:19 A.M.*)

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Legislator Angie Carpenter, Chairperson
Public Safety & Public Transportation Committee

{ } - Denotes spelled Phonetically

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